

## CHAPTER 297C

### LIQUOR TAXATION

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#### 297C.03 PAYMENT OF TAX; RETURNS; WINE AND DISTILLED SPIRITS.

Subdivision 1. **Manner and time of payment; failure to pay.** The tax on wines and distilled spirits on which the excise tax has not been previously paid must be paid to the commissioner by persons liable for the tax on or before the 18th day of the month following the month in which the first sale is made in this state by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler. Every person liable for the tax on wines or distilled spirits imposed by section 297C.02 must file with the commissioner on or before the 18th day of the month following first sale in this state by a licensed manufacturer or wholesaler a return in the form prescribed by the commissioner, and must keep records and render reports required by the commissioner. The commissioner may certify to the commissioner of public safety any failure to pay taxes when due as a violation of a statute relating to the sale of intoxicating liquor for possible revocation or suspension of license. The return for the May liability and 75 percent of the estimated June liability is due on the date payment of the tax is due.

A person liable for an excise tax of \$120,000 or more during a fiscal year ending June 30 must remit all excise tax liabilities in the subsequent calendar year by means of a funds transfer as defined in section 336.4A-104, paragraph (a). The funds transfer payment date, as defined in section 336.4A-401, must be on or before the date the excise tax is due. If the date the excise tax is due is not a funds transfer business day, as defined in section 336.4A-105, paragraph (a), clause (4), the payment date must be on or before the funds transfer business day next following the date the excise tax is due.

*[For text of subd 6, see M.S.1992]*

**History:** 1993 c 375 art 10 s 36

#### 297C.04 PAYMENT OF TAX; MALT LIQUOR.

The commissioner may by rule provide a reporting method for paying and collecting the excise tax on fermented malt beverages. The tax is imposed upon the first sale or importation made in this state by a licensed brewer or importer. The rules must require reports to be filed with and the excise tax to be paid to the commissioner on or before the 18th day of the month following the month in which the importation into or the first sale is made in this state, whichever first occurs. The rules must also require payments in June of 1987 and subsequent years according to the provisions of section 297C.05, subdivision 2.

A distributor who has title to or possession of fermented malt beverages upon which the excise tax has not been paid and who knows that the tax has not been paid, shall file a return with the commissioner on or before the 18th day of the month following the month in which the distributor obtains title or possession of the fermented malt beverages. The return must be made on a form furnished and prescribed by the commissioner, and must contain all information that the commissioner requires. The return must be accompanied by a remittance for the full unpaid liability shown on it. The return for the May liability and 75 percent of the estimated June liability is due on the date payment of the tax is due.

A licensed brewer, importer, or distributor having an excise tax liability of \$120,000 or more during a fiscal year ending June 30 must remit all excise tax liabilities in the subsequent calendar year by means of a funds transfer as defined in section

336.4A-104, paragraph (a). The funds transfer payment date, as defined in section 336.4A-401, must be on or before the date the excise tax is due. If the date the excise tax is due is not a funds transfer business day, as defined in section 336.4A-105, paragraph (a), clause (4), the payment date must be on or before the funds transfer business day next following the date the excise tax is due.

**History:** 1993 c 375 art 10 s 37

## 297C.05 RETURNS.

*[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1992]*

**Subd. 2. Accelerated tax payment.** Every person liable for tax under this chapter having a liability of \$120,000 or more during a fiscal year ending June 30, shall remit the June liability for the next year in the following manner:

(a) Two business days before June 30 of the year, the taxpayer shall remit the actual May liability and 75 percent of the estimated June liability to the commissioner and file the return on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

(b) On or before August 18 of the year, the taxpayer shall submit a return showing the actual June liability and paying any additional amount of tax not remitted in June. A penalty is hereby imposed equal to ten percent of the amount of June liability required to be paid in June less the amount remitted in June. However, the penalty shall not be imposed if the amount remitted in June equals the lesser of (1) 70 percent of the actual June liability, or (2) 75 percent of the preceding May's liability.

*[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1992]*

**History:** 1993 c 375 art 10 s 38

## 297C.07 EXCEPTIONS.

The following are not subject to the excise tax:

(1) Sales by a manufacturer, brewer, or wholesaler for shipment outside the state in interstate commerce.

(2) Sales of wine for sacramental purposes under section 340A.316.

(3) Fruit juices naturally fermented or beer naturally brewed in the home for family use.

(4) Malt beverages served by a brewery for on-premise consumption at no charge, or distributed to brewery employees for on-premise consumption under a labor contract.

(5) Alcoholic beverages sold to authorized manufacturers of food products or pharmaceutical firms. The alcoholic beverage must be used exclusively in the manufacture of food products or medicines. For purposes of this part, "manufacturer" means a manufacturer of food products intended for sale to wholesalers or retailers for ultimate sale to the consumer.

(6) Sales to common carriers engaged in interstate transportation of passengers and qualified approved military clubs, except as provided in section 297C.17.

(7) Alcoholic beverages sold or transferred between Minnesota wholesalers.

(8) Sales to a federal agency, that the state of Minnesota is prohibited from taxing under the constitution or laws of the United States or under the constitution of Minnesota.

(9) Shipments of wine to Minnesota residents under section 340A.417.

**History:** 1993 c 350 s 2

## 297C.09 IMPORTATION BY INDIVIDUALS.

A person, other than a person under the age of 21 years, entering Minnesota from another state may have in possession one liter of intoxicating liquor or 288 ounces of

malt liquor and a person entering Minnesota from a foreign country may have in possession four liters of intoxicating liquor or ten quarts (320 ounces) of malt liquor without the required payment of the Minnesota excise tax. A collector of commemorative bottles, other than a person under the age of 21 years, entering Minnesota from another state may have in possession 12 or fewer commemorative bottles without the required payment of the Minnesota excise tax. A person entering Minnesota from another state who imports or has in possession intoxicating liquor or malt liquor in excess of the quantities provided for in this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. A person entering Minnesota from a foreign country who imports or has in possession untaxed intoxicating liquor or malt liquor in excess of the quantities provided for in this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. This section does not apply to the consignments of alcoholic beverages shipped into this state by holders of Minnesota import licenses or Minnesota manufacturers and wholesalers when licensed by the commissioner of public safety or to common carriers with licenses to sell intoxicating liquor in more than one state. A peace officer, the commissioner, or their authorized agents, may seize untaxed liquor.

**History:** 1993 c 350 s 3

## 297C.14 PENALTIES.

**Subdivision 1. Penalty on unpaid tax.** If a tax imposed by this chapter, or any part of it, is not paid within the time required for the payment, or an extension of time, or within 30 days after final determination of an appeal to the tax court relating to it, there shall be added to the tax a penalty equal to five percent of the amount remaining unpaid if the failure is for not more than 30 days, with an additional penalty of five percent of the amount of tax unpaid during each additional 30 days or fraction thereof, not exceeding 15 percent in the aggregate.

**Subd. 2. Penalty for failure to file.** If a person fails to make and file a return within the time required by this chapter or an extension of time, there shall be added to the tax five percent of the amount of tax not paid on or before the date prescribed for payment of the tax. The amount so added to any tax under subdivisions 1 and 2 shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner and as a part of the tax and shall bear interest at the rate specified in section 270.75 from the time the tax should have been paid, unless the tax has been paid before the discovery of the negligence, in which case the amount so added shall be collected in the same manner as the tax.

In the case of a failure to file a return within 60 days of the date prescribed for filing of the return (determined with regard to any extension of time for filing), the addition to tax under this subdivision shall not be less than the lesser of (i) \$200; or (ii) the greater of (a) 25 percent of the amount required to be shown as tax on the return without reduction for any payments made or refundable credits allowable against the tax; or (b) \$50.

*[For text of subds 3 to 8, see M.S.1992]*

**Subd. 9. Penalty for repeated failures to file returns or pay taxes.** If there is a pattern by a person of repeated failures to timely file returns or timely pay taxes, and written notice is given that a penalty will be imposed if such failures continue, a penalty of 25 percent of the amount of tax not timely paid as a result of each such subsequent failure is added to the tax. The penalty can be abated under the abatement authority in section 270.07, subdivisions 1, paragraph (e), and 6.

**History:** 1993 c 375 art 10 s 39-41